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PELO rebels urge Arafat to resign

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian-backed rebels opposed to Yasser Arafat's leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called on him Sunday to stand down from all his posts. The statement by dissident leaders of Fatah, Mr. Arafat's mainstream guerrilla group, was issued as the Palestinian chief prepared to leave the north Lebanese port of Tripoli with his loyalist fighters. "We call upon Arafat to resign all his posts immediately," the statement said. Apart from being chairman of the PLO, Mr. Arafat is also head of Fatah and commander-in-chief of the Palestinian revolution. "This resignation is required in order that the PLO and our masses be given the opportunity of continuing their revolution and struggle," the Fatah rebel leaders said. "Otherwise, our masses and their effective forces will find a way to force him to do so."

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Regent congratulates Nigerian leader

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday sent a cable of good wishes to Nigerian President Shehu Shagari on the anniversary of the Nigerian Independence Day, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. In his cable, Prince Hassan wished the Nigerian leader success in the leadership of his country and further prosperity and progress for the Nigerian people, Petra said.

Luce begins talks in Abu Dhabi

ABU DHABI (R) — British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Richard Luce began talks here Sunday with his United Arab Emirates (UAE) counterpart Rashid Abdullah Al Nuaimi, the official Emirates News Agency reported. The British minister arrived in the UAE Saturday by road from Oman where he met Sultan Qaboos and Omani officials. Mr. Luce recently visited Syria, Kuwait, and Bahrain but had to interrupt his Middle East tour to return to London.

3 Israelis held in Amsterdam

AMSTERDAM (R) — An Israeli man charged with causing a fire at a sex club complex which killed at least 13 people and injured about 25 has been held in Amsterdam, the 36-year-old man, not named, was one of three Israelis held after the blaze which raged through the complex housing sex clubs, dance rooms, and gambling centres in Amsterdam's red-light district on Friday night.

Philips-led group takes over Grundig

AMSTERDAM (R) — A consortium led by the Dutch electronics giant Philips and including several European banks will take over Grundig of West Germany next April, Philips said Sunday. Philips, the largest home electronics producer in Europe, will take control of the day-to-day management of Grundig and at the same time increase its indirect holding to over 55 per cent.

MAS airliner crash-lands

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — A Malaysian Airlines System (MAS) plane with 100 passengers on board crash-landed Sunday at Subang International Airport about 25 kilometres from the capital, the national news agency Bernama reported. Two passengers were admitted to hospital with injuries, the agency quoted reports from airport police as saying.

Indian president begins Qatar visit

DOHA (R) — Indian President Giani Zail Singh Sunday began a three-day state visit to Qatar, the first by an Indian head-of-state. President Zail Singh was welcomed at Doha airport on his arrival from Czechoslovakia by the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani.

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Gunboats pound Tripoli; one reportedly hit

Israelis resume attack on Palestinian fighters awaiting evacuation

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — Four Israeli gunboats bombarded Tripoli harbour Sunday, hitting the docks and two warehouses, as Palestinian fighters awaited the arrival of a Greek flotilla to evacuate them, a Palestinian spokesman said.

He said the Israeli gunboats opened fire with heavy guns and machineguns, but one was hit and set ablaze when Palestinian gunners returned the fire, forcing the Israelis to withdraw out to sea. In Tel Aviv, a military spokesman confirmed Israeli gunboats bombarded Palestinian targets in and near Tripoli.

Guerrilla artillery fire was directed from the shore but "failed to hit any of the attacking Israeli gunboats," the spokesman said. Eyewitnesses said a warehouse was set on fire and the Palestinian spokesman said another was also hit.

The blazing warehouse was close to the docks where an Italian hospital ship took on about 100 wounded Palestinian fighters and civilians Saturday.

It was the start of the evacuation of besieged fighters loyal to Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Witnesses said the Israelis began bombarding the port and Palestinian positions stretching about one kilometre to the north and south of Tripoli at 4:30 p.m. (1430 GMT).

Dec. 9 Greece asked for specific security guarantees for the evacuation vessels from the Beirut Multi-National Force (MNF) comprising U.S., French, Italian and British troops.

France replied by sending three corvettes to escort the Greek ships, which have also been authorised by the United Nations Security Council to fly the U.N. flag as a symbolic security measure.

Israel carried out the first sea-borne bombardment after a bomb attack in Jerusalem killed several people earlier this month and the PLO claimed responsibility. Since then the PLO has said the attack was aimed at a military bus and the Jerusalem blast was a mistake.

Former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon said after the blast that Mr. Arafat should not be allowed to leave Tripoli alive.

Since then Israel has objected to the Palestinian fighters receiving international help for their evacuation.

It asked the United Nations to withdraw permission for the ships to fly the U.N. flag but was rebuffed by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on grounds that it was a humanitarian measure.

Mr. Arafat and his men have been trapped in Tripoli for six weeks. They took refuge in the city last month after battles with Syrian-backed Palestinian rebels who pushed them out of the PLO leader's bases in nearby refugee camps.

Greek flotilla on way

The bombardment came as five Greek ships escorted by three French navy corvettes were sailing from Cyprus to Tripoli for the evacuation.

Most of the evacuation ships were expected to arrive Sunday night and start taking 4,000 guerrillas on board Monday.

After the first bombardment on

Rumsfeld briefs Mubarak on U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance

CAIRO (R) — U.S. Middle East envoy Donald Rumsfeld Sunday appeared to have helped ally Egyptian fears over last month's U.S.-Israeli strategic co-operation agreement.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told reporters after two hours of talks with Mr. Rumsfeld: "I think now, as far as I understand the real situation, I could tell you that to a certain extent it is convincing... yet we will still exchange views."

Egyptian officials said President Reagan had written twice to Mr. Mubarak about the Nov. 29 pact, which the Egyptian leader had earlier called a potential disaster and an obstacle to peace.

Mr. Mubarak gave no details about his talks with Mr. Rumsfeld, but Egyptian officials said the envoy had brought a detailed explanation of the pact.

Egypt is one of Washington's

PLO-Jordan talks urged

He said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should resume talks with Jordan after the evacuation of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's supporters from Lebanon.

"We should encourage the Palestinians to co-operate with His Majesty King Hussein to make the linkage to implement the Reagan plan," he said.

The Reagan plan, rejected by Israel, calls for Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan.

In the wake of Mr. Reagan's peace initiative of September 1982, Jordan and the PLO entered into talks on joint political moves in Middle East peace efforts. The talks, which foundered last April, were supported by Egypt.

Israeli patrol attacked in S. Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — A Lebanese civilian was killed and several people including Israelis were wounded Sunday when a hand grenade was hurled at an Israeli army patrol at the southern Lebanese town of Sidon, witnesses reported.

They said three Israeli soldiers and three Lebanese civilians were wounded.

An Israeli army spokesman in Tel Aviv confirmed the attack and the Lebanese death, but claimed only two Israelis were wounded and did not mention any injured

them Lebanese hills and valleys of Zaharani and Nabatiyah, security officials said. Israeli planes have recently staged several bombing attacks in central and eastern Lebanon.

Israeli soldiers have come under frequent ambush attacks since the army pulled back to new "defence lines" along the Awali River in South Lebanon three months ago, hoping to decrease casualties.

The army was searching the area for the attackers, the Israeli spokesman said in Tel Aviv.

Opposition assails Gandhi's 'war scare'

NEW DELHI (R) — A prominent Indian opposition party Sunday attacked Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for her allegation Saturday that neighbouring Pakistan was preparing for war and accused her of electioneering.

Krishan Lal, secretary of the right-wing Hindu grouping called the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), charged Mrs. Gandhi with making propaganda ahead of by-elections in five of India's 22 states next week.

Speaking in Calcutta Saturday, Mrs. Gandhi said Pakistan was making preparations for war although it was difficult to predict the possible threat to India.

The press Trust of India (PTI) news agency quoted Mr. Lal as calling on Mrs. Gandhi to prove her claim.

"She must manifest the seriousness of the situation, take the opposition into confidence and arrive at a consensus to safeguard the country's territorial integrity if she really feels there is any such danger," he stated.

"We in the BJP, however, do not feel there is any such threat," he told reporters in the northern city of Chandigarh.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since independence in 1947.



Wounded Palestinian fighters evacuated from the north Lebanese port of Tripoli by the Italian hospital ship Appia wave to their comrades and Red Cross workers who greet them at Larnaca harbour Sunday morning (A.P. wirephoto)

Injured Arafat men transferred to Egypt by plane from Cyprus

CAIRO (R) — Two Egyptian air force planes returned from Cyprus Sunday with more than 70 wounded pro-Arafat Palestinian fighters evacuated from the north Lebanese port of Tripoli.

Many of the wounded, some in green battle dress, stepped from the planes on crutches, while others were taken away on stretchers.

They were greeted by Khadija Arafat, sister of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, and PLO representatives in Cairo.

Pictures of Mr. Arafat were pinned to their chests and many of them gave the victory sign as they left the C-130 Hercules transport planes at an airbase east of Cairo.

A total of 94 guerrillas loyal to Mr. Arafat were transferred Sunday morning from the Italian hospital ship Appia, chartered by the International Red Cross, which

sailed into Larnaca port from Tripoli Saturday night.

One seriously wounded guerrilla was taken to a local hospital in Cyprus and 19 other badly injured fighters were to fly out on a Yugoslav charter plane later Sunday.

One guerrilla would go to Jordan. Cypriot officials involved in the evacuation said.

The wounded guerrillas had remained on board the Appia, a Venetian passenger ship flying Red Cross flags and with giant red crosses painted on the sides, overnight in Larnaca harbour.

High morale

As dawn broke over the harbour, the fighters, some in wheelchairs, others hiding their faces

behind black-and-white headcloths, appeared on deck to wave portraits of Mr. Arafat and raise V-for-victory signs.

One bearded fighter with an eye injury pointed to the bronze lion of St. Mark, the Patron Saint of Venice, on the ship's funnel and shouted in Arabic: "We are the lions of Tripoli."

A Greek doctor who travelled with the fighters on the Appia said most were Palestinians but that there were 15 Lebanese, five Syrians, two Turks and two Pakistanis who had fought as volunteers with the Arafat loyalists.

A French photographer who was also on board said the Appia had been shadowed by Israeli gunboats at one stage on the voyage from Tripoli. This had unnerved both the crew and the guerrillas but the Appia had not been stopped, he said.

may resume in 1984, page 2

U.S. navy shatters Lebanon ceasefire

BEIRUT (R) — American warships Sunday shattered the calm of Lebanon's three-day-old ceasefire, shelling anti-aircraft batteries in Syrian-held mountains behind Beirut.

A U.S. Marines spokesman said the cruiser Ticonderoga and the Destroyer Tadmor unleashed a barrage of 60 five-inch shells after two F-14 Tomcats came under anti-aircraft fire over the mountains northeast of the capital.

The planes, flying a tactical reconnaissance mission over Lebanon, were not hit and returned safely to the aircraft carrier Independence, the spokesman said.

The anti-aircraft fire and the U.S. naval bombardment signalled the first major clash in Lebanon since a ceasefire on Friday between the country's warring factions.

Politicians and diplomats in Lebanon and abroad have been striving to turn the truce into a more permanent peace.

Syria said U.S. warships Sunday bombarded its positions in central Lebanon after Syrian air defences intercepted two U.S. F-14 planes and drove them off after they flew over Syrian-held areas.

A military spokesman said: "As part of aggressive acts being exercised by U.S. forces against our forces in Lebanon, two F-14 jets flew over our positions at 13:25 (11:25 GMT) local today, but our air defences in the area intercepted them, prevented them from carrying out their mission and forced them back towards the sea."

"Immediately, U.S. warships offshore Beirut bombarded our positions in the Metn area," the spokesman said.

Saudi, Syrian and Lebanese foreign ministers seek way around Israeli pact

DAMASCUS (R) — The foreign ministers of Syria, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia Sunday held about five hours of "very positive" talks on resuming Lebanon's national reconciliation conference, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said.

"We had very positive discussions about all aspects of the Lebanon problem with the aim of creating a good and positive environment for the next reconciliation meeting between the Lebanese," he told reporters.

Prince Saud, speaking after talks with Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem and Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam, did not indicate when the reconciliation conference might be resumed.

But he said the three ministers would meet again early in January.

Mr. Salem told reporters: "The talks went very well."

Sources close to the ministers said Mr. Khaddam and Prince Saud were trying to join Mr. Salem in finding a way around the May 17 troop withdrawal agreement signed between Lebanon and Israel.

Syria, which has about 40,000 troops stationed in north and east Lebanon, has condemned the U.S.-sponsored accord and considers it the biggest obstacle to a settlement.

The sources said the reconciliation talks, adjourned after a five-day meeting in Geneva last month, were expected to resume in the second week of January. Reports from Switzerland said the conference would not resume before January 9, (Lebanese talks

may resume in 1984, page 2)

The talks between the foreign ministers here are viewed by Lebanon's warring factions as crucial to prospects for a resumption of the so-called national dialogue to try to end about eight years of civil war.

There is strong pressure from Syria on leftist and other opponents of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel to make the Lebanon-Israeli agreement a key issue and to demand its abrogation.

Washington has made clear that the troop withdrawal pact remains a cornerstone of its policy in the region.

The sources said all sides were trying to find a formula acceptable to Syria and allow the conference to discuss domestic political reforms.

Nakasone's party may lose majority

TOKYO (R) — Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) ran into trouble as results came in from the nation's general election early Sunday and computers forecast it might lose its parliamentary majority.

After a promising early start the LDP suffered sudden setbacks that plunged the party leadership into gloom. "All we can do now is pray," said Deputy Cabinet Secretary Takeo Fujimori.

Kyodo News Agency said its own computer showed the LDP was certain to fall short of the 270 seats regarded as the stable level for control of the 511-seat House of Representatives.

Kyodo said the party might even fail to win a bare majority — something which has happened only once before in its 28 years of unbroken power.

The results posed a severe setback for Prime Minister Yasuhiro

Nakasone who called the election six months ahead of time because of the political chaos caused by the Lockheed bribery scandal.

The only previous occasion on which the LDP failed to gain a bare majority was in 1976 when it captured only 249 seats. The party stayed in power then with the help of independents.

"The same could happen again. But the setback for the staunchly pro-Western Nakasone, one of the most controversial prime ministers in post-war Japan, could weaken his influence in the party and open the way for his removal by rival LDP factions."

One reason given for the poor LDP showing was the lowest voter turnout of post-war years. Only 67 per cent of the 84 million electorate went to the polls.

Results known five hours after the start of the count showed oppo-

sition parties faring well, especially the Buddhist-based Komeito Party which campaigned for a clean-up in government ethics.

Also showing well was the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), largest of the opposition groups.

The man at the centre of the Lockheed scandal, ex-Premier Kakuei Tanaka, romped home a winner in his native Niigata as the biggest vote count he had ever registered in all his 16 general elections.

Mr. Tanaka, convicted in October of taking a \$2 million bribe from Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, stood as an independent.

Although forced out of government office and from the LDP by the scandal, Mr. Tanaka has remained Japan's most powerful political figure through backstage political influence.

Kuwait arrests 10 suspects for bomb attacks

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti authorities have arrested 10 Muslim fundamentalists — seven Iraqis and three Lebanese — in connection with last week's bombings in the Gulf state, a government spokesman was quoted Sunday as saying.

The Kuwaiti news agency quoted Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Abdul-Aziz Hussein as saying all 10 belonged to an underground Iraqi fundamentalist group, the Al-Dawa Al-Islamia (Islamic call) and all had admitted involvement in the bombings.

Half a dozen bombs went off in a 90-minute period in Kuwait last Monday, with the United States and French embassies among the targets. At least five people died at the U.S. embassy, including the driver of the bomb truck, and one in a separate bomb attack at Kuwait airport.

The Kuwaiti government identified the dead driver of the suicide truck as an Iraqi Muslim fundamentalist with pro-Iranian sympathies who belonged to the banned Iraqi Al-Dawa Al-Islamia Party.

The official news agency also said that, while arresting the suspects, the authorities had seized a number of weapons. It said they

had been smuggled into Kuwait by sea but gave no further details.

Kuwait borders on Iraq and Saudi Arabia and has supported Iraq in its Gulf war against Iran.

Iraq blamed Iran for being behind the Kuwait blasts and bombed several Iranian towns last Wednesday in retaliation. Iran denied any involvement in the bombings.

Mr. Hussein was speaking after a Kuwait cabinet meeting to discuss the investigation into the explosions, the official news agency said.

It said Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah, reporting to the cabinet, named the suicide bomber who died at the U.S. embassy as Iraqi citizen Raad Akil Al-Badr and described him as a member of Al-Dawa Al-Islamia.

The agency quoted the minister as saying one more Iraqi suspect wanted in connection with the bombings was still at large.

Zia proposes separate courts for women

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani military ruler Gen. Mohammad Zia ul Haq said Sunday women would have separate courts in the Islamic judicial system which he plans to introduce.

Speaking at a conference of religious scholars marking the birthday of Prophet Mohammad, Gen. Zia also asked Pakistanis to tear up and burn any obscene literature they found.

He said he regarded changes in the judicial system as pivotal to his efforts to make Pakistani society more Islamic. "It is my aspiration to set up this system," he said.

His government planned to set up Islamic courts in selected areas on an experimental basis by March and then gradually extend the system to the whole country.

"We have also arranged for separate women's courts... to ensure justice is done to women," he said.

Women's groups in the country object to a proposed law under which the evidence of two women would be regarded as equal to that of one man.

Gen. Zia did not mention this aspect of the law Sunday but said laws of evidence, currently under consideration, would be in force by the end of January.

The controversial clause was proposed by the council of Islamic ideology.

Arab-Americans seek to free captured pilot

NEW YORK (R) — The leader of an organization of Arab-Americans said he would send a delegation to Syria to seek the release of a captured U.S. pilot.

M.T. Mehdi, chairman of the American-Arab organisations, said he also would ask President Reagan to withdraw U.S. Marines from Lebanon in exchange for the release of the pilot. Lt. Robert Goodman, captured earlier this month when his plane was downed during a raid on Syrian-held territory.

"We believe this exchange is in favour of the American people and the cause of peace," Mr. Mehdi told Reuters.

He said the Marines were supporting a minority government against the people of Lebanon and were considered "as an occupational force and not peacekeeping troops."

The Marines arrived in Lebanon in 1982 as part of a four-nation peacekeeping force. The other three nations are Italy, France and Britain.

Mr. Mehdi said the delegation represents about 50,000 members of 25 Arab-American groups in the United States.



A U.S. Marine and a "sniffer" dog checks cars for explosives in the Beirut Airport parking lot located outside the main gate of the Marine Headquarters. The parking lot was full by Saturday morning after Beirut Airport reopened Friday night (A.P. wirephoto)

Lebanon talks may resume in '84

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's national reconciliation conference is unlikely to resume until January because more time is needed for preparations, government sources said Sunday.

It was no longer planned to resume the talks next Tuesday, the date tentatively given by officials earlier, they added.

The conference, aimed at reconciling Lebanon's warring factions, broke off after a five-day meeting in Geneva last month. It is now expected to resume in the first half of January either in the

Swiss towns of Geneva or Montreux, or possibly in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The sources said a firm date and venue was expected after Sunday's meeting in Damascus between Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem and his counterparts from Syria and Saudi Arabia, which have observer status at the reconciliation talks.

The Damascus meeting is aimed at getting the conference restarted following President Amin Gemayel's visits to Washington and

European and Arab capitals in search of a way round the May 17 Lebanese-Israeli accord on troop withdrawals.

The accord is opposed by Syria and its Lebanese allies but supported by the United States.

The Damascus meeting might decide the issue should be frozen and concentrate instead on internal political reforms for Lebanon, although Mr. Gemayel has stressed the priority of achieving the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, the sources said.

U.S. military aid not enough, Egypt says

CAIRO (R) — Defence Minister Mohammed Abdel-Halim Abu Ghazala said Sunday Egypt needed at least \$1.3 billion in U.S. military grants for its needs.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazala, speaking to reporters after a meeting of Egypt's top policy makers, was commenting on Washington's recent decision to give Israel and Egypt more than \$1 billion each in military grants in 1985.

"The amount is less than we asked for... our programme needs at least \$1.3 billion, there is going to be inflation in prices and I don't think even \$1.3 billion will be enough to keep the programme going," Field Marshal Abu Ghazala said.

Over 4,000 Turkic stock Afghan refugees settle down in Turkey

TOKAT, Turkey (R) — Over 4,000 Afghan refugees are finding a new life in Turkey through a seven billion lira (\$28 million) resettlement project launched by President Kenan Evren following the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Abdul Kerim Ceyhan, 18, is one of 4,170 Afghan refugees of Turkic stock who have been brought to Turkey for permanent settlement since they fled their country following the Soviet action in 1979.

"We are better off here. We'll stay and we'll be Turkish citizens. Of course I'll do my national service in the army," he said, summing up his compatriots' views.

They come from four groups — Uzbeks, Turcomans, Kirgiz and Kazaks — whose language has the same roots as modern Turkish.

"He saw the people living in awful conditions and asked them if they would like to come here," said Kemal Yalcin, a former provincial governor in charge of the programme.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees paid their fare and gave \$400,000 towards the project.

The last of them flew in two weeks ago. No more are scheduled, although applications from close relatives of those already here will be considered, Mr. Yalcin says.

About 80 per cent of the immigrants, most of whom have already been given Turkish citizenship, are poor farming folk being settled in the remoter eastern parts of Turkey.

The Uzbeks, the largest group with 1,676 people, are split between traders and other townfolk in the city of Gaziantep and rural people in villages around Hatay, bordering Syria.

The next largest group, the Kazaks, are being settled around the eastern city of Van, and the

Evacuation of Lebanon mountain refugees begins after 1-day break

BEIRUT (R) — Evacuation of Christian refugees from the besieged mountain town of Deir Al-Qamar resumed under increased security Sunday after a one-day suspension, a Red Cross spokesman said.

The evacuation was interrupted after the Red Cross said incidents occurred on Friday when a refugee convoy passed through Druze villages in the Shout mountains south of Beirut. A Beirut newspaper said Druze villagers stopped, searched, robbed, spat upon and cursed the evacuees.

Sunday's 12-bus convoy of 500 refugees was escorted towards Beirut by an increased contingent of guards from the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

the Red Cross spokesman said. Lebanese internal security forces were also guarding the evacuation. The civilian convoy was the third to leave after Druze forces besieging Deir Al-Qamar since September offered to let thousands of trapped Christian militiamen and civilians leave to spend the holiday season with their families.

Some 2,500 Christian militiamen left on Thursday under Israeli military guard.

They were trapped in the town after the rightwing Falangist "Lebanese Forces" lost a mountain war with the Druze last September. Thousands of Christians from the region also fled to Deir Al-Qamar and the town was kept

alive by Red Cross supply convoys.

Red Cross officials say another 2,000 civilians want to leave but several thousands will stay on in the hope of a comprehensive settlement that would allow them to return to their homes.

The Lebanese government has asked Greece and Italy to send observers to Deir Al-Qamar, the Greeks to monitor the evacuation, and the Italians to ensure that those left behind are not harassed.

State-run Beirut Radio said Greece had communicated its agreement in principle and the Italian embassy said the request had been forwarded to Rome.

Denktash agrees to talks on issue of missing persons early next year

NICOSIA (R) — A U.N.-led committee on missing persons in Cyprus, which includes representatives from both Greek and Turkish communities, will meet early next year, Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash said Sunday.

It is expected to be the first official meeting between the two sides since the Turkish sector of the island declared independence last month, a move recognised only by Turkey.

The three-member missing persons committee was set up in April 1981 to investigate complaints from both sides about a total of 2,412 Turks and Greeks missing in fighting on the island over the years. It has not met for about two years.

"We informed the U.N. 10 days ago that we are ready to discuss the question of missing persons. We have learnt that the talks will begin in the first week of February 1984," Mr. Denktash told reporters.

Committee members are Claud Pilioud, appointed by the U.N. secretary general, Erikos Mithaelides from the Greek-Cypriot side and Latife Birgen from the Turkish sector.

Greek Cypriots say 1,609 of their people disappeared during the 1974 Turkish invasion, which split the island into the southern Greek and northern Turkish sectors. Turkish Cypriots put their number of missing since the 1963 intercommunal strife at 803.

Wounded Sinai peacekeepers in good shape

TEL AVIV (R) — Two members of the Sinai Multinational Peacekeeping Force wounded by a gunman Saturday are in good condition, a spokesman said Sunday.

The spokesman said David Elliot, 34, of Yantis, Texas, a civilian with the U.N. force, was recovering from stomach wounds in an Israeli hospital at Eilat.

His companion, Dutch army first private Ferdinand Groen, 19, of Dordrecht, hit in the leg, was released from hospital Sunday morning.

The men were near Sharm El-Sheikh at the southern tip of Sinai on a routine tour of radio installations when the gunman fired at their jeep with an automatic weapon, the spokesman said.

34 poor families

Abdul Kerim and his family are among 34 poor families crammed temporarily into an old agriculture faculty in Tokat, where they have set up their iron beds and carpeted floors side-by-side in the classrooms.

Abdul Kerim was a farmer in Afghanistan, but he is not sure yet what his permanent occupation in Turkey will be. One of his three sisters was left behind when the family fled three years ago to Pakistan, but he says he is happy here.

"We are in a good position now. In Pakistan we were in tents for 18 months."

In Artova, near Yesilyurt, former Member of the Afghan Parliament Abdul Kerim Mahdum, a big smiling man in white blouse and trousers, says one reason the Turcomans are content here is the kinship they feel with the local people.

Third-class citizens

"In Afghanistan we were third-class citizens," he says. "Our children took years to learn Farsi in school but here they learn local Turkish in three months."

He is full of thanks to the Turkish government for providing so much for them, "even down to needles and thread."

The main problems have been to persuade the conservative Afghans to send their women to language classes and to dispel jealousy among local Turks of the money spent on the newcomers.

Gen. Evren once threatened to send the refugees back if they did not send girls to school, which off-

ended and Afghans alike say they are now all doing. But adult women still do not attend language classes and are rarely seen outside their homes.

Officials say jealousy among local Turks has been dissipated by giving only state land to the refugees and by ensuring that new facilities like water systems and electricity are also extended to local communities.

While waiting for their new villages, the main occupation of the Afghans at Artova is carpet-weaving, a traditional skill they intend to keep up. The refugees have opened a shop in Istanbul to sell and export their work.

Abdul Kerim Mahdum's sister, Hatice, whose husband died in clashes with Soviet forces, spends most of her days crouched over a horizontal carpet loom on which she has made one piece carrying the scarlet Turkish flag and the motto "I am Turkish."

Mr. Mahdum says his large family lost 27 men fighting the Soviets before fleeing the Joizian area around the city of Shibarghan.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz	639, 720, 1413 KHz
MAIN CHANNEL	06:00 News
17:30 Koran	06:45 Letter from London 06:55
18:00 Children's programme	07:00 World News 07:00
18:30 Start Here	07:30 News 07:30
18:55 Children's Programme	07:45 At Home With 08:00 News
19:20 Programmes review	08:30 Baker's Half Dozen 09:00 World
19:30 Programme on Music	09:30 News 09:30
20:00 News in Arabic	09:45 World News 09:45
20:30 Local Programme	10:00 World News 10:00
21:30 Arabic Series	10:15 Vietnamese Nights 10:30
22:30 Arabic Variety	10:45 World News 10:45
23:10 News in Arabic	11:00 World News 11:00
FOREIGN CHANNEL	11:15 World News 11:15
18:00 French Programme	11:30 World News 11:30
19:00 News in French	11:45 World News 11:45
20:30 Comedy: Benson	12:00 World News 12:00
21:00 100 Great Paintings	12:15 World News 12:15
21:10 Drama: All For Love — Eps. 2	12:30 World News 12:30
22:00 News in English	12:45 World News 12:45
22:15 The A Team	13:00 World News 13:00
RADIO JORDAN	13:15 World News 13:15
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM	13:30 World News 13:30
& partly on 9560 KHz, SW	13:45 World News 13:45
07:00 Morning Show	14:00 World News 14:00
07:30 News Bulletin	14:15 World News 14:15
08:00 News Summary	14:30 World News 14:30
08:30 Morning Show	14:45 World News 14:45
09:00 Pop Session	15:00 World News 15:00
09:30 News Summary	15:15 World News 15:15
10:00 News Summary	15:30 World News 15:30
10:30 News Summary	15:45 World News 15:45
11:00 News Summary	16:00 World News 16:00
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23:00 News Summary	22:00 World News 22:00
23:30 News Summary	22:15 World News 22:15
24:00 News Summary	22:30 World News 22:30

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITION
* Orientalist paintings, at the Alia Art Gallery.	
CONCERT	
* The Bach Band and Malik Madi perform at the Royal Cultural Centre studio theatre at 7:00 p.m.	
VIDEO	
* "Alastair Cooke's America: Making a Revolution," at the American Centre at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m.	
* "Euroconet" satellite press conference featuring National Security Council advisor Robert McFarlane, at the American Cultural Centre at 12:00 p.m.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre . Tel. 6610267	
American Centre . 44371	
American Cultural Library . 41520	
British Council . 36147-8	
French Cultural Centre . 37009	
Goethe Institute . 41993	
Soviet Cultural Centre . 44203	
Spanish Cultural Centre . 24049	
Turkish Cultural Centre . 39777	
Haya Arts Centre . 665195	
Haya Youth City . 667181	
Y.W.C.A. . 41793	
Y.W.M.C.A. . 664251	
Amman Municipal Library . 36111	
University of Jordan Library . 84355	
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Amman, Tel. 24590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Lubdakh. 37440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Philadelphia. 661757.	
Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox): Abdali. 23541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabal Amman. 41559.	
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. 71331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. 75261.	
PRAYER TIMES	
06:04 Fair	
06:32 (Sunrise) Shuruf	
11:32 Dhul	
14:17 'Asr	
16:37 Maghrib	
18:02 Isha	

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
AMMAN AIRPORT	ARRIVALS
This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 33250, where it should always be verified.	07:00 Cairo (EA)
	09:00 Amman (RJ)
	09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
	09:30 Jeddah (RJ)
	09:45 Doha, Kuwait (RJ)
	09:50 Beirut (RJ)
	10:00 Cairo (RJ)
	10:15 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
	10:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
	12:30 Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GA)
	13:00 Moscow (SU)
	14:00 Kuwait (KAC)
	14:10 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
	14:20 Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)
	14:30 Bangkok (RJ)
	14:40 Athens (GA)
	14:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
	15:00 Cairo (RJ)
	15:10 Beirut (MEA)
	15:20 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)
	15:30 Cairo (RJ)
	15:40 Tunis, Cairo (TU)
	15:50 Frankfurt, Damascus (LA)
	16:00 Baghdad (IA)
	16:10 Cairo (RJ)
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USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance	193. 75111
Fire	193. 75111
Police	193. 75111
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Police headquarters	22090-3
Police rescue	192. 21111. 37777
Traffic police	56390-1
Electric Power Co.	36381-2
Municipal water service	71125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport	(08) 53393

Dr. A. Hawandeh	77665
Nurokh pharmacy	23627
Adnan pharmacy	31652
Al Mahatta pharmacy	55443
Al Shamsiyah pharmacy	66499
Jabal Al Ta' pharmacy	71050
Taxi no.	44660
Jerusalem taxi	49665
Tanger taxi	66641
Khalad taxi	23715
Kard taxi	841309
Waddah taxi	812459

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre	81381-32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman	44281-4
Akhil Maternity, J. Amman	42441
Jabal Amman Maternity	42362
Malha, J. Amman	36140
Palestine, Shamsiah	66417-4
Shamsiah Hospital	669131
University Hospital	848484
Der Al-Shifa, J. Hussein	667158
The Islamic, Abdali	66727-6
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Sheikh Hamad leaves for home

AMMAN (Petra) — Bahraini Her Apparent Sheikh Hamad Ibn Al Khalifa left for home Sunday at the end of a private visit to Jordan that lasted several days. During the visit Sheikh Hamad was received by His Majesty King Hussein and His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent. He also toured Jordan's tourist and archaeological sites and met leading Jordanian officials. Sheikh Hamad was seen off at the airport by Crown Prince Hassan, Court Minister Abder Khammash and other senior officials.

Military court sentences embezzlers

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced three people for embezzling public funds. Abdul Hadi Nuseir will be imprisoned for six months and Musa Muhammad will be imprisoned for three years with hard labour for such a felony. Also Barakat Tbeishat will be imprisoned for one and half years and will pay a fine of JD 776 on a similar charge. The military governor Sunday endorsed the sentences.

Yarmouk-U. hosts economics book show

AMMAN (Petra) — A commercial book exhibition was opened Sunday at Yarmouk University with eight libraries from all around Jordan participating in it. The exhibition, which is being organised by the economics and administrative sciences society at the university, was opened by the dean of the faculty of economics and administrative sciences, Dr. Hisham Gharaibeh. The four-day exhibition, which is the first of its kind to be held on the campus, includes books and publications on economics and administration.

Majali opens photo exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day exhibition of photographs was opened Sunday at the University of Jordan. The exhibition, which was opened by the University president, Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, includes photographs depicting tourist and historic places in Jordan in addition to other photographs on Jordanian folklore and student activities. The opening ceremony was attended by the university vice-president, dean of students' affairs, the university librarian and a large number of students.

Malhas urges tackling of environmental health problems

By Affah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The rapid progress and development in construction, agriculture and industry have had their adverse effects on the environment in the region and eventually on the health of the people in particular and on the economic development in general, according to Health Minister Zuhair Malhas.

Dr. Malhas was delivering an inaugural address at the international consultation meeting on environmental health research which started here Sunday at the Amman Hotel.

The five-day meeting, which is being organised by the ministry in tandem with the World Health Organisation (WHO), is being attended by six international experts in the field of environmental health as well as by environmental specialists representing seven countries situated in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region. They are Egypt, Sudan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the host country, Jordan.

Dr. Malhas, in welcoming the participants to Jordan, pointed out WHO's history of co-operation with the Kingdom and said that the meeting is the fifth of its kind being held here during the last two months. He said that the existence of human beings in some parts of the world can result in a defect and hence a corruption in the balance of nature resulting in the by-product of pollution.

Dr. Malhas said that pollution increases through the greater use of technology in addition to human waste. He pointed out that the advanced nations, because of their advanced state, undertook many precautions aimed at limiting and eradicating their pollution.

Outlining Jordan's environmental health problems, the minister said that the protection of drinking water resources, which are in short supply in Jordan, and its supply to the people require enormous efforts and continuous control.

"This is a very costly business which requires specialisation in chemical and bacteriological areas as well as knowledge in the maintenance of equipment so as to execute the work properly."

Dr. Malhas pointed out that for the last three years the ministry has examined water resources to determine the types of germs causing pollution.

"Due to the insufficiency of drinking water Jordan uses surface water which is purified at a station in the centre of the Jordan Valley. This, he said, "requires daily examination and supervision."

Regarding the drainage of waste water, Dr. Malhas said that it is an important and dangerous matter.

"Our problem," he said, "is not only to make sure that it does not provide a breeding ground for germs and poisonous chemicals but also to determine whether it can be processed and used for irrigation."

Another problem that faces the environmental health is the disposal of solid waste matter, Dr. Malhas added.

Referring to air pollution, Dr. Malhas said that the air is contaminated by dust which harbours chemical impurities from for example car exhausts, factories and chimneys.

In respect to the effects of insecticides and pesticides used in agriculture, Dr. Malhas pointed out that "it is a side effect inflicted on us which necessitates that we take every precaution against it."

"It is said that there is no proper implementation of the rules and instructions for the use of these pesticides. There are also no restrictions placed on its sellers and users a fact which has resulted in

the build up of intoxicating waste in the bodies of many farmers."

In the opening session, the chief of WHO Environmental Health Programme, Mohammad Islam Sheikh, delivered a message from the director of WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, Hussein Gezairy, in which he thanked Jordan for hosting the meeting.

Dr. Sheikh, on behalf of Dr. Gezairy, referred to the two "historic resolutions" approved by the World Health Assembly (WHA), Resolution WHA.30.43, he said, prescribed that the principal social targets of WHO member states should be to attain for all people by the year 2,000 a level of health

that will permit them to lead socially and economically productive lives.

The second resolution, WHA.30.33, Dr. Sheikh said, endorsed the recommendations made by the United Nations Water Conference, held in 1977, giving priority to the provision of a safe water supply and healthy sanitation service for all by the year 1990.

Dr. Sheikh added that the linkage between the two WHA resolutions is crucial given "the primary importance of environmental health together with other health services in the attainment of health for all by the

year 2,000. On the research undertaken by the various sectors, Dr. Sheikh said that most of them centred upon urban and industrial situations "without adequately providing a solution to environmental health problems in the rural areas."

Specifying the objectives of the consultation meeting, Dr. Sheikh said that it will review the current research studies in the field of environmental health, with specific reference to those related to community water supply, sanitation and food.

The meeting will also to propose suitable venues for undertaking research.



ALIA ART GALLERY

Presents

An Exhibition of Paintings

By

YUSSEF HUSSEINY

From 20 - 26 December 1983.

at Alia Art Gallery - Shmeisani

جاليري عالية

يقدم

المعرض الفني الثامن للوحات

الفنان

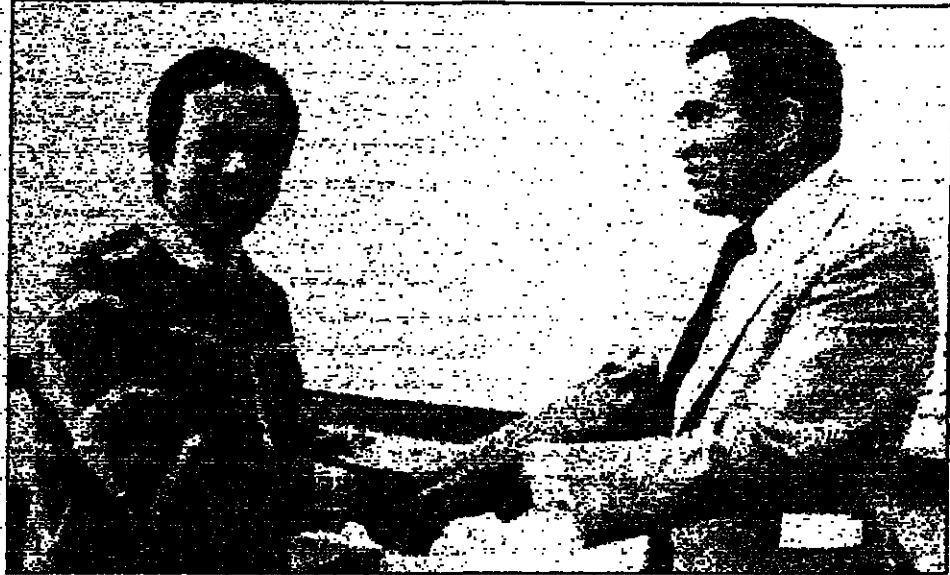
يوسف الحسيني

من ٢٠ ولغاية ٢٦ كانون الاول ١٩٨٣

في قاعة جاليري عالية - الشميساني

Alia Art Gallery

JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY



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Voices of disrespect

THE REAGAN administration seems obsessed with the idea of discontinuing American participation in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). In the words of State Department spokesman John Hughes, the organisation has had so much "politicisation, attempts to restrict the freedom of the press and impose economic regulations." According to Hughes, the Reagan administration will take a final decision on the matter very soon.

In our view, it is the U.S. which is not paying enough respect to the organisation and its humanitarian principles, and activities. It is the U.S. that has been protecting Israel's violations of Arab cultural and historical sites in the occupied Arab territories in violation of UNESCO's charter which calls for the preservation of cultural and religious heritage of all nations. The Israelis have been excavating under Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, demolishing mosques, plundering churches, interfering in Arab schools, changing Arab educational programmes, imposing sanctions on university professors, detaining Arab school teachers and persecuting trade union leaders and mistreating Arab labourers.

These issues were raised on several occasions either at the U.N. General Assembly, the Security Council or UNESCO conferences. Not on a single occasion was the U.S. voice raised in protest against these Israeli violations and illegal activities. On the contrary, U.S. membership of UNESCO has obstructed the agency from imposing all the needed sanctions on the Zionist state.

Spokesman Hughes said that "the so-called new world information order was an issue that has reappeared in cycles in recent years and is one issue that the U.S. opposes." Didn't the delegates to UNESCO arrive at a compromise agreement on this issue? So why the fuss now? And, speaking about "politicisation", was it not the U.S. that threatened to stop its contributions to and leave UNESCO if Israel was expelled for its illegal actions in the occupied Arab territories? Have we not heard the same American threat levelled at other U.N. organisations, even the U.N. itself, folks? Until when, may we ask, can the international community continue to take this kind of talk from the U.S. — in defence of, guess what, Israel's long and disdainful record of violating even basic human rights?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. no longer neutral

WE ARE not satisfied with the statement made by Larry Speakes, the White House press spokesman, who said that the U.S. would like to see the Palestinian fighters pulling out from Lebanon without any complications or problems. We regard the U.S. administration as being totally responsible for the safety of the Palestinians in the light of the repeated Israeli threats against their ships as they make the voyage to Cyprus or Greece. The U.S., which is bound to Israel by a strategic alliance, should take steps to stop any Israeli adventures that might endanger the life of the Palestinians. Should the attack occur, Washington would be considered as an aggressor in the launching of an attack on U.N. ships.

The U.S. cannot pretend to be neutral because Israel's plans have always been coordinated with Washington, and Speakes's statement can never absolve the American administration from such aggression. The Greek ships carrying the U.N. flag are due to arrive in Tripoli Monday to carry the Palestinians away, and it remains to be seen whether the U.S. will abide by its international principles and ethics in providing protection for the ships travelling in international waters.

Al Dustour: Anti-Palestinian conspiracy

ANOTHER EXODUS, this time from Tripoli, the beleaguered Lebanese city that witnessed one of the fiercest phases of inter Arab fighting on record. The Palestinians are leaving Tripoli for the unknown as they did last year when they were forced to leave Beirut which was besieged by Israeli invasion forces by land and sea. This time the Palestinians are leaving a city besieged, most shamefully, by Arab forces by land and by the Israeli enemy by sea. They are moving away not under Arab protection but by guarantees of protection from foreign nations which volunteered to defend the Palestinian fighters from Israel's treacherous attacks.

With the departure of the fighters from Tripoli, another chapter in the conspiracy on the Palestine problem will have come to a conclusion — a chapter which all Arabs ought to draw lessons from and take precautions in the future. It is indeed shameful that certain Arab countries, which claim to be striving to achieve a strategic balance with the Israeli enemy and raise slogans in support of the Palestinian people, are now helping the Israeli enemy to get rid of the Palestinians — their fiercest foes on the battlefield.

Sawt Al Shaab: Lessons from Prophet

THE ARAB Nation, which has long suffered from weakness and instability, ought to take a lesson from the anniversary of Prophet Mohammad's birthday. The current dangers threatening the Arab and Muslim nations, their identity and future, stem from the weakness in their faith and the divisions among them. Returning to true faith and religion is the answer to all our problems because Islam embodies religion and struggle for liberation — a stage necessary for achieving our aspired goals.

When Prophet Mohammad came to the world, the Arab Nation was as divided as it is now, divided into tribes and groups continually fighting among themselves or serving the interests of foreign powers who had influence on this region. The time has now come for the Arab and Muslim nations to rise up from oblivion, unify their ranks under the banner of Islam and fight the enemy with a new spirit. The time has now come for the nation to take lessons from the Prophet who led his people towards successes and progress.

DE FACTONOMICS

Alliance against whom?

The American-Israeli strategic alliance understanding, which was reached during the visit of Mr. Shamir to Washington three weeks ago, has raised justified concerns among Arab officials and ordinary citizens. What are its contents? Its implications? Is it a matter of national policy for the United States or part of an electoral campaign?

When asked about the agreement, Mr. Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state, responded nervously: Show me its text. Indeed, the American-Israeli alliance has no text to refer to yet. But why bother about a text if the resulting actions have been already initiated?

The American press has reported that the alliance offers Israel many enticements.

Economic and military aid was raised from \$2.6 billion to \$3.1 billion with a larger portion as grants. Israel will have access to sophisticated technology to develop its new Lavijet fighter. A joint political military committee will meet next January to coordinate matters related to military manoeuvres, stockpiling of U.S. equipment in Israel and a joint stand in Lebanon. America will buy additional Israeli weapons and will allow Israel to sell more of its weapons in third countries.

It is also reported that Israel, on its part, did not offer in exchange any freeze on its colonisation policy, nor an acceptance to negotiate on the basis of last year's Reagan initiative. There are also serious doubts on Israel's willingness to wage a war against Syria just

to serve the United States interests, whether these interests are confined to reestablish a friendly government in Lebanon, or to pressure the Syrians to withdraw or for Israel to play a dominating role in containing Soviet influence.

The New U.S.-Israel partnership boils down to definite gains for Israel, coordination in Lebanon and, most important for the Reagan Administration, a guaranteed support of the Zionist lobby for reelecting President Reagan. Thus, the alliance may be short-lived since it serves only short-term objectives. Nevertheless, its implications are very serious.

The United States has become very blunt in its full support for Israel. The Arabs do

not need to argue this point any further. What can be more than a strategic cooperation agreement and full political support at international conferences? Things are now very clear and Arab moderates are cornered. America's assumed evenhandedness has become a matter of the past.

The United States previous policy to contain the Soviet influence in the Middle East was sought through wider pacts that involved Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, and for some time, Iraq. Now, America has picked up only Israel for its cold war campaign. This makes the effort unconvincing.

The Arabs pointed out three years ago, when the former U.S. Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, announced the

conclusion of a strategic cooperation agreement with Israel, that they do not share the American view of an imminent Russian threat. The Arab concern was, and continues to be, to curtail Israel expansionist policies, end its occupation of Arab lands and ensure for the Palestinian people their legitimate rights.

There was some hope a year ago that the United States will be able to bring about an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and concentrate on the search for peaceful settlement of the Palestinian issue. After the American-Israeli partnership, moderate Arab governments are compelled to look for other alternatives. The Arab individual will look inward and become gradually fu-

damentalist. Both moves will help evolve new attitudes in the Arab society, including a true revival of the Islamic and other values, frankness and direct treatment of issues, strong cooperation and sympathy among Arab peoples and the resort to violent actions against enemy interests.

Many Americans blame the Arab for not making their views influence the American policy-makers through their public. We recognise that we do not have the capability to outfight the Zionist lobby. But the American Administration has all the facts needed to pursue a proper policy in the Middle East. It is only a matter of priority between American long-term interests in the area and the short-lived preferences of a given administration.

Premature withdrawal from Lebanon threatens vital U.S. interests, Reagan tells Congress

WASHINGTON — President Reagan has informed the U.S. Congress that a "premature withdrawal" of the Multinational Force (MNF) from Beirut "would certainly bring about a return to full-scale hostilities in Lebanon and regional instability threatening vital U.S. interests."

In a report sent to the legislators Dec. 14, Mr. Reagan said that the presence of the U.S., French, Italian and British contingents "symbolises Western support for Lebanon's efforts not only to withstand external pressure but to enter serious negotiations with Syria on troop withdrawals."

The president declared that "premature withdrawal of the MNF would damage seriously the international credibility of the United States and its partners and call into question the resolve of the west to carry out its responsibilities to help the free world defend itself."

Mr. Reagan's report, prepared by Secretary of State George Shultz and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, was made in compliance with a directive in the Multinational Force in Lebanon Resolution of last October in which Congress authorised an 18-month stay for U.S. Marines in Lebanon.

The Reagan report, dated Dec. 12, said that the option was being "kept open" for replacing the MNF by another type of international peacekeeping force "at an appropriate time."

"As the programme of national reconciliation and extension of Lebanese governmental authority progresses, the need for a foreign multinational presence will be reduced and the MNF can be reduced and eventually eliminated," the president reported.

However, he said that "it is still not possible to predict the duration of the presence of these forces; we will continue to assess this question in the light of progress toward the objective of national reconciliation and establishment of Lebanese government control."

Mr. Reagan said that Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, while in Washington Dec. 1-2, "rededicated himself to making rapid progress on the important issue (of) ensuring a wider representation of Lebanese communities in the political process."

Mr. Gemayel has agreed with the U.S. that "political accommodation and negotiation" would be a necessary part of the process of expanding Lebanese governmental control throughout areas not occupied by foreign forces, Mr. Reagan noted.

Mr. Reagan made these other points in his congressional report: — Although it is "impossible to be precise as to target dates, particularly in view of intermittent resumption of fighting, we believe the LAF (Lebanese Armed Forces) is significantly improving its capabilities to meet its responsibilities to assist the GOL (Government of Lebanon) to expand and control its authority."

— Strengthening the Lebanese Armed Forces "remains an essential element" of U.S. policy. Following is the full text of President Reagan's letter to Congress:

I am providing herewith a further report with respect to the situation in Lebanon and the participation of the United States Armed Forces in the Multinational Force. This report, prepared by the secretaries of state and defence, is consistent with section four of the Multinational Force Lebanon Resolution. This report also includes the information called for by the House version of the resolution

and is submitted in accordance with its more restrictive time limits.

I remain convinced that congressional support for our continued participation in the Multinational Force is critical to peace, national reconciliation, and the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. We will, of course, keep you informed as to further developments with respect to this situation.

The government of Lebanon (GOL) requested the return of the Multinational Force (MNF) to the Beirut area following the tragedy of Sabra/Shatila. The presence of the MNF was requested specifically to facilitate the restoration of Lebanese government sovereignty and authority over the Beirut area and thereby to further efforts of the Lebanese government to assure the safety of persons in the area and to bring an end to the violence. The MNF remains in Lebanon to help provide the Lebanese government and Lebanese communities an opportunity to reach agreement on broadening the government and to negotiate the withdrawal of foreign forces. The presence of U.S. forces is a critical part of a shared effort with our Western allies, the British, French and Italians, in the Multinational Force. They are as committed as we to assisting the Lebanese to restore peace and stability to their country. The presence of this Multinational Force further symbolises Western support for Lebanon's efforts not only to withstand external pressure but to enter serious negotiations with Syria on troop withdrawals. Premature withdrawal of the MNF would damage seriously the international credibility of the United States and its partners and call into question the resolve of the West to carry out its responsibilities to help the "free world" defend itself. Such action would certainly bring about a return to full scale hostilities in Lebanon and regional instability threatening "vital U.S. interests."

Level of fighting

On Sept. 26, 1983, a ceasefire for the Beirut and nearby mountain areas (the Shouf) became effective among the Lebanese government, "the Druze, the Shi'ite and the Syrian government. Saudi Arabia and the United States played major mediating roles in achieving this agreement. The ceasefire agreement of September relates only to the Shouf and Beirut. It does not apply to the situation in Tripoli, an area outside the purview of the MNF, in any case. On Oct. 23, two suicide truck bombs destroyed U.S. and French MNF buildings killing almost 300 soldiers. The French Air Force responded on Nov. 16 to the attack in an airstrike on "Iranian positions in the Bekaa." The Israeli Air Force conducted a series of airstrikes against "chiefly Palestinian positions in the Shouf and Bekaa in response to the Nov. 4 truck bombing of IDF headquarters in Sidon." On Dec. 3, U.S. reconnaissance planes were fired on by Syrian anti-aircraft guns and surface-to-air missiles. The United States "responded to this attack with airstrikes on the offending positions" on Dec. 4. These strikes were limited in nature, proportionate to the attack on our reconnaissance planes, and designed to prevent further such attacks. Our reconnaissance flights and their protection are necessary to ensure the safety of the MNF in Lebanon. They had no other purpose. Two aircraft were lost, one airman killed and one



captured. On the same day, heavy shelling from the Shouf onto Marine positions killed eight Marines and wounded two.

There have been virtually daily violations of the Sept. 26 ceasefire in the Shouf and Beirut areas. The Security Arrangements Committee, established by the ceasefire agreement of September, continues to meet virtually every day and attempts to resolve the disputes sparking the ceasefire violations. The level of fighting changes from day to day, depending on the degree of success of continued efforts of the Security Arrangements Committee to resolve problems.

The flareups usually do not last for more than a few hours; continuous fighting has not lasted for over one day since the Sept. 26 ceasefire. Some of the firing has been directed at Marine positions at the airport, which has been closed since Dec. 1. It is not possible at this time to predict the duration or course of the intermittent fighting.

Responsibilities, activities and composition of the MNF

Under its mandate, the MNF provides an interposition force at agreed locations, constituting a multinational presence requested by the Lebanese government to assist it and the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) in the Beirut area. This presence facilitates the restoration of Lebanese government sovereignty and authority over the Beirut area and thereby furthers the efforts of the Lebanese government to assure the safety of persons in the area. The MNF is not authorised to engage in combat, but may exercise self-defence.

The MNF is currently composed of the following units which perform the functions indicated at the request of the Lebanese government. Their precise functions within the MNF mission have varied over time and continue to be subject to adjustment in light of changing circumstances: — One U.S. Marine amphibious unit stationed at Beirut airport as an interposition force which also provides security forces at U.S. diplomatic facilities in Beirut; — Two interposition Italian battalions in southwest Beirut which also help protect the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps; — Two French battalions serving as an interposition force in and near the port of Beirut; — One British Motorised company serving as an interposition

force east of the Beirut Airport. In addition, each participant in the MNF has naval and air support forces in the region.

MNF military casualties

The following military casualties have occurred since the MNF deployment to Beirut in September 1982:

	Killed	Wounded	Captured
U.S.	250	121	1
Italy	2	18	
France	75	56	
U.K.	0	1	

Our strategy to reduce and eventually eliminate the MNF begins with our diplomatic effort to encourage reconciliation among Lebanese factions, expand Lebanese government control over the territory of Lebanon, and create circumstances that will lead to removal of all foreign troops from Lebanon. The option of replacing the MNF by another type of international force at an appropriate time is also being kept open. As the programme of national reconciliation and extension of Lebanese governmental authority progresses, the need for a foreign multinational presence will be reduced and the MNF can be reduced and eventually eliminated. It is still not possible to predict the duration of the presence of these forces; we will continue to assess this question in the light of progress toward the objective of national reconciliation and establishment of Lebanese government control.

In addition to their contributions of troops to the MNF, members of the MNF are providing military and economic assistance to Lebanon. The U.S. is providing \$150 million in 1983/84 in economic assistance. France has offered \$125 million in 1983/84, mostly in commercial credits, while Italy is providing \$142 million in soft loans over the next three-four years. The U.K. has provided \$3 million, but it and the others are channelling additional contributions to Lebanon through the European Economic Community. Prime Minister Craxi of Italy has proposed additional economic support for Lebanon as an incentive to rapid progress in the reconciliation process. The U.S. has strongly supported this initiative.

The U.S. is also providing \$117.5 million in 1983/84 in military loans for military equipment

and training as part of our concerted effort to reconstitute the LAF and make it a strong arm of the central government's authority. Reprogramming of additional funds is being contemplated.

The U.S. and Lebanon agreed on Dec. 2 to establish economic and military committees to provide additional structure to our

	Killed	Wounded	Captured
U.S.	250	121	1
Italy	2	18	
France	75	56	
U.K.	0	1	

bilateral discussions on these issues.

Progress in training

Strengthening the LAF remains an essential element of our Lebanon policy. Although the LAF has not yet attained the desired level of proficiency, it performed well during the August-September combat. The LAF is at least as effective now as it was prior to the heavy fighting. Although it is impossible to be precise as to target dates, particularly in view of intermittent resumption of fighting, we believe the LAF is significantly improving its capabilities to meet its responsibilities to assist the GOL to expand its control and authority.

Programmes to improve leadership at middle levels and to enhance recruitment, and retention of qualified personnel are underway. The LAF has not had trouble absorbing increased equipment shipments provided by the U.S. and other countries. Current U.S. efforts focus on training and possible support of an expanded helicopter programme. We have completed a survey of Lebanese Air Force requirements, and are considering ways to support an expanded helicopter programme through pilot training and perhaps maintenance assistance.

To date, the GOL has financed its substantial re-equipment programme through a combination of credits and its own resources. Continued fighting in Lebanon and the scope of the programme may require the GOL to seek increased credits.

Progress toward national reconciliation

The Lebanese Reconciliation Committee, which was provided for in the September ceasefire

agreement, met in Geneva under President Gemayel's chairmanship from Oct. 31-Nov. 3. The agenda had been prepared for the conference a week previously in a one-day meeting of representatives of the government and the factional leaders. The conference themselves achieved an important measure of personal reconciliation at Geneva and were able to reach a compromise on the first item of the agenda, which was the Arab character of Lebanon. The conference participants also agreed on a method for excluding divisive debate on the May 17 Lebanon-Israel agreement from the conference, permitting the conference to adjourn its first session in an atmosphere of cordiality that was so widely predicted. It is significant that the conference left behind a subcommittee to continue discussion of internal political reforms. That subcommittee has produced a draft agreement which would form a basis for further national reconciliation efforts. President Gemayel, in his discussions in Washington on Dec. 1 and 2, rededicated himself to making rapid progress on the important issue ensuring a wider representation of Lebanese communities in the political process.

Political settlement

In addition to the efforts already described relating to national reconciliation, President Gemayel, in his discussions in Washington in December, agreed on the need to expand government control throughout the areas not occupied by foreign forces. He further agreed that political accommodation and negotiation would be a necessary part of this process. President Gemayel has undertaken to proceed rapidly in this direction, and the U.S. will provide its diplomatic support and assistance to this essential goal. It was also confirmed that he will pursue vigorously efforts to engage Syrian discussions to achieve Syrian troops withdrawal from Lebanon in the May 17 Lebanon-Israel agreement. We have encouraged Lebanon to continue its discussions to facilitate the establishment of government control throughout Lebanon. Mr. Gemayel's new personal representative for Middle East negotiations departed for the Middle East on Dec. 5 for intensified discussions of issues related to a political settlement.

'Controlled educational policy needed to regulate brain outflow'

By Dr. Ibrahim Ata

Over the past three decades, the Arab World has witnessed major population movements within itself and in other regions. Among them has been a steady flow of highly trained professionals and scientists, emigrating at alarming speed and in large proportions to Western countries. The trend has acquired the widely accepted term of brain drain, or better still brain erosion—indeed, a problem which requires a solution.

This article addresses itself to examining the 'determinants' of the outflow, its volume and consequences, with a final note on how to change the direction of such migratory trend.

Literature on international migration reveals a host of determinants which sway qualified individuals to emigrate to richer countries. These determinants, however, vary in degree, and are not identical amongst various developing countries, as it depends on the level of development of the country, and the perception of the individual concerned.

Push/pull determinants

The push/pull determinants are usually cited as the main forces behind the brain erosion. Notwithstanding, a scientist would not migrate unless the gates of both the home country and receiving one are open.

The so-called backwardness of centres of higher education in the Middle East (hospitals included) is commonly cited as a major 'push' force. Evidence of this kind was published by Zahlan, an Arab scientist, in 1969. He observed that the number of publishing scientists in the whole of the Arab

World was 581—as opposed to 1,542 in Israel. Zahlan very pointedly attributes such backwardness to the society's lack of concern for individual's health and welfare in favour of trade and real estate.

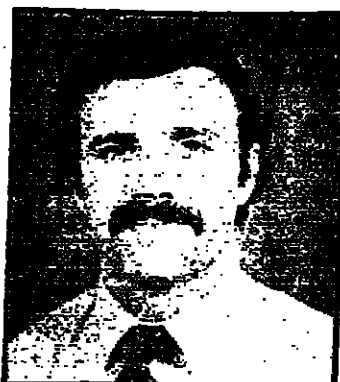
Another scientist, T. Zarour, lists the following factors: 1. Poor educational planning often results in 'superfluous' over-qualified manpower. 2. Under production of educated people in certain specialties in the West results in the West providing better opportunities, more attractive salaries and better research facilities to qualified scientists from this region. 3. Monopolisation of positions through practices of nepotism often undermines promotion based on merit.

Better opportunities

The main pull factors relate to better employment and research opportunities in Western countries; the respect and recognition of the emigrants talents by the host country; and the social and legal acceptance in Canada, Australia and the U.S.—it is much easier to be granted citizenship in these countries than in any Arab country.

All these act as means to fulfill ones scientific aspirations and feeling of excellence, especially when one is considered over-specialised in ones country, or because his expertise is regarded out of place.

We have listed only a few of the forces behind emigration, not including political instability, freedom of opinion, social barriers, and so on. It must be stressed, in this regard that the forces behind brain drain from Arab countries are reflected in, and can be generalised, in the same manner to



Dr. Ibrahim Ata

many other developing countries.

The following three Western countries: Canada, England and the U.S. attract 75 per cent of qualified emigrants from Third World countries. Between 1961 and 1976, a total of sixty thousand medical, one hundred thousand scientists and engineers have drifted there.

Financial gains

The financial gains which these countries accrue are quite enormous. For example, the U.S. in 1970 netted \$2.9 billion by receiving qualified emigrants from Asia alone, with one third of this amount from Arab countries—without having to spend one cent on their training. This amount does not even include the revenues that come in the form of income taxes.

The American Council for National Services estimated a total of ninety thousand qualified Arab emigrants from Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Tunisia, and Algeria, to the U.S. between 1966 and 1975. Another fifteen thousand emigrated from the same

countries to Canada between 1963 and 1966.

Another study conducted in 1970, detailed that 90 per cent of Lebanese natural scientists emigrated or resided abroad, and 56.5 per cent of Syrian engineering graduates left Syria altogether between 1962 and 1966. (Noteworthy is the fact that lawyers from Arab countries rarely emigrate overseas since law degrees often do not grant them international recognition).

It is scientifically established that a relationship between studying overseas and emigration of qualified Arabs, does exist. The previously cited study of Zahlan found that 60 per cent of Arab students who studied in Western countries stayed there; whilst only 15 per cent of those who studied in socialist, or developing countries, do so.

Other findings noted a relationship between variables such as family contact 'overseas', level of education, field of specialisation (and religious affiliation, as is the case in Lebanon), and what country of destination people choose. University graduates, for example, immigrate to Canada, France, England and the U.S. Technicians, and other skilled workers, find opportunities in Arab oil-producing countries, Australia, and to a lesser extent the U.S.

It must be noted, that brain drain involves not only the migration of scientists (doctors, and engineers included) but also those in other fields of scholarship, such as historians, writers, poets and music composers. It is because the bulk of international outflow is composed of scientists, that the statistical information becomes somewhat biased and incomplete.

Indeed, statistics can be of assistance in charting current trends of brain drain, but do not show as the amount of damage that is inflicted on the economic system.

Benefits and drawbacks

Opinions analysed in various reviews about the relative benefits, or drawbacks, of the so-called brain drain are varied.

In a short term, perspective, repatriated ideas, remittances and skills are usually cited as benefits. However, other variables must be taken into consideration in the long term. For example, whatever portion of returnees to a country like Egypt might eventually, it'll be very small in proportion to the unemployment figures. Similarly, remittances to Jordan for example are often not invested in productive enterprises that contribute to the economic growth. Add to that the total dependence of a large number of families on the money remitted from abroad. Other drawbacks include, an irreversible trend of a spillover of the cream of the crop from poor countries into affluent ones.

Researchers differ in opinion on whether brain drain is merely a social phenomenon or an international problem. Yet such differences are abridged in a consensus of opinion that the primary cause is an inequitable economic system.

A number of proposals have been put forward in order to alleviate the effects of the brain drain phenomenon, or problem if you like, in this region.

At the World Lebanon Conference in 1977, Prince Hassan proposed that the host countries provide compensatory facilities in response to the emigration of qua-

lified hands, whereby the importing countries pay the expenses of training such qualified scientists to their countries of origin. Another, was to apply certain taxes upon entry of Arab scientists to Western countries, and that the revenues are channelled ultimately to the country of origin. The latter proposal could possibly be regarded a violation of human rights principles.

Controlled policy

With respect to Jordan, the educational policy has to be controlled if 'brain outflow' is to be regulated. For if the ratio of graduates exceeded economic demands, the outflow of unemployed professionals will increase—as is the case with medical graduates.

The suggestion that the creation of more adequate jobs will keep our scientists at bay seems an impossible task to crack. Besides, the rate of 'overseas' contacts, the increase in emigration of relatives, and better communication with the West, will predictably swell the brain drain even further.

The broad solutions that were outlined as the ultimate panacea admittedly require further probing. It is my belief, however, that unless the primary forces behind emigration are identified, and the needs and aspirations of our qualified scientists are catered for, there will be little room left for optimism.

The writer is professor of sociology at Yarmouk University, Irbid. He contributed the above commentary to the Jordan Times.

Randa Habib's Corner

Killing good steaks

THERE IS a Ministry of Supply. This ministry controls the prices in favour of the consumer. That's how it should be.

However, everything is not as simple as it looks. Owners of restaurants, pizzerias, hamburger shops have briefed me on certain points and have asked me to publish them. Their first demand is to have the prices related to the quality. They say that when the ministry of supply imposes the price of 500 fils for a pizza, for example, they should take into consideration whether the tomatoes used are fresh or canned, if the ham is fresh etc...

A loaf of bread made with milk should not have the same price as the one made with water. The same applies to meat. We all know how many different kinds of meat there is. A rumsteak or a chateaubriand can never cost the same as a simple steak or minced meat. The same goes for a hamburger that can be made from leftovers or from fresh meat.

A pastry shop owner who was making an excellent bread with milk and butter had to stop this practice because the ministry had refused to allow him to sell this bread at a higher price than the normal bread. It goes without saying that to make this bread the bakery owner had to use milk and butter which made his bread more costly.

The people who complained to me told me also that if the owner of a takeaway restaurant wanted to be reputable, he had to lose money or sacrifice the quality to gain money, running the risk of losing his customers or putting up with their displeasure.

They all agree that the solution would be in a better understanding of their problems on the part of the authorities. Price estimation should be based on quality. To reach this, the price controllers should be "connoisseurs" in this field and this means that they should be able to differentiate between a good "filet" and normal meat and between a simple pastry and a costly cake.

Washington acts to insure survival of grizzly bear

WASHINGTON—The U.S. government is working to insure the survival of America's grizzly bears.

The grizzly is presently listed as a threatened species in the 48 conterminous U.S. states, where it is estimated that there are now fewer than 1,000 in the wild.

The efforts of U.S. forest officials and scientists will be combined to encourage the recovery of the grizzly bear population and make recommendations to state governments concerning ways to protect those animals, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture officials. USA.

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SPORTS

Nystrom gives Sweden Davis Cup boost

SYDNEY (R) — Joakim Nystrom won the New South Wales Open Tennis Championship here on Sunday to bring Sweden their second major Australian title in eight days and boost spirits for their Davis Cup final against the Australians next week.

Nystrom followed up Mats Wilander's victory in the Australian Open in Melbourne with a 2-6, 6-3, 6-1 triumph over American Mike Bauer which amazed Swedish Davis Cup captain Hans Olsson.

Olsson said he was "the most surprised man in the country" because of the form shown by his players before the Davis Cup final clash in Melbourne, beginning on

December 26.

"Before I left to come to Australia I did not dare to think we would carry off the two most important tennis titles here," Olsson said. "I am astonished. I did not think it possible."

Nystrom is only the second European player to win the New South Wales Open in the 98-year history of the tournament, following Alex Metreveli of the Soviet Union in 1972.

But Olsson refused to say whether the win would give Nystrom the second Davis Cup singles spot behind Wilander in preference to Anders Jarryd, the regular choice.

Jarryd was beaten by Bauer in the third round here, and Nystrom is unquestionably the player in form after completing his first Grand Prix win and collecting his biggest pay cheque of \$20,000.

"I will be looking at both closely over the next week of practice. I want to choose the one who is fittest and best equipped. It's a big decision," Davis Cup captain Olsson said.

Jarryd has a good Davis Cup record. He has lost only twice and beat Argentina's Jose-Luis Clerc in the semifinals in Stockholm last October.

Nystrom, a 21-year-old right-hander, has played only one Davis Cup singles — a 'dead' rubber against the Soviet Union in Sweden in March which he lost.

But he has adapted well to the grass courts of Australia. Ironically, he is allergic to grass and missed Britain's Wimbledon Championships this year because he did not think he could cope with it. He needs medicine as an antidote whenever he plays on the surface.

IAAF bans 8 athletes for life after dope tests

MANILA (R) — Eight athletes have been banned for life by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) for failing or refusing to take dope tests. IAAF President Primo Nebiolo said on Sunday.

The bans were dished out as the IAAF agreed to tougher measures to combat drug-taking in athletics. Four athletes — Juan de la Cruz and Juan Nunez of the Dominican Republic, Maria Cristina Betancourt Ramirez and Rosa Fernandez of Cuba — were banned for failing dope tests at the Pan American Games in Venezuela last August.

Two others — Darius Juzyszyn of Poland and Hungary's Agnes Herczeg — were barred for failing tests at the European Cup final in London in the same month while Portugal's Elioso Rios failed a test at an international meeting at Viareggio, Italy, in July.

But Sweden's Lars Erik Karlstrom was banned for refusing a test at a meeting in Copenhagen in August.

Nebiolo said the IAAF Council,

which concluded its three-day meeting here, also agreed in principle to increase random checks and ruled that no world records would be recognised unless the athlete immediately underwent a dope test.

Nebiolo said the athletes had been banned for life but their national federations could ask for a revocation after 18 months.

But all eight have effectively been barred from competing in next year's Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

"Sometimes records are broken at smaller meetings but these would not be recognised unless the athlete takes a dope test," Nebiolo said.

IAAF Secretary John Holt said random checks were being increased in a bid to stamp out drug taking along with other measures to ensure athletes remained dope-free throughout a championship.

He said some athletes looked at time tables and stopped just before taking part in an event. He said the IAAF was also working on a proposal to set up flying squads which would arrive at a competition to conduct dope tests.

Dutch on brink of European soccer finals

ROTTERDAM (R) — The Netherlands defeated Malta 5-0 here Saturday night to make virtually certain of qualifying for the finals of the European Soccer Championship.

The result means Spain face the almost impossible task of beating Malta by 11 clear goals at home next Wednesday in the last match of Group Seven to finish ahead of the Dutch on goal difference.

But despite their enviable position the Dutch must feel they should have scored more often against one of Europe's weakest sides. They pinned Malta in their

own half for much of the match but found it difficult to create clear-cut chances against a packed defence.

Only three goals in the last 20 minutes, the final one in the dying seconds of the game, put the Dutch close to the sort of winning margin they were seeking. Their marksmen were Frank Rijkaard (2), Gerald Vanenburg, Ben Wijnstekers and Peter Houtman.

The Maltese hero was goalkeeper John Bonello, who dominated his penalty area and thwarted the Dutch with a series of fine saves.

Soviet Soccer Federation to discuss national team failure

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union's sports committee Sunday condemned the declining state of soccer in the country and called for a meeting of the National Soccer Federation to work out a solution. TASS news-agency reported.

The Soviet national side, who just failed to qualify for the European Championship finals from Group Two, have come in for heavy criticism recently from the

sports committee, the overall national organising body, who claim there are 'serious miscalculations' in preparing the country's top teams.

"The main task in the 1984 season is to achieve success with the Olympic side and with clubs Dinamo Minsk, Spartak Moscow, Shakhtyor Donetsk and Dnipro in the European competitions," the committee said.

The Soviet Union has had limited success in Europe's three major club competitions, lifting the European Cup Winners' Cup twice in the past eight years, the last when Dynamo Tbilisi beat East Germany's Carl Zeiss Jena 2-1 in 1981.

A federation meeting, probably in the early part of next year, is likely to lead to sweeping managerial and coaching changes at both national and club level.

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FORECAST FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

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WORLD

Britons told guerrillas could attack any time

LONDON (R) — Britons were warned Sunday there may be more guerrilla attacks following the car bomb among Christmas shoppers outside Harrods department store Saturday which killed five people and injured 91.

Police blamed the Irish Republican Army (IRA) for the bombing which was branded "a crime against Christmas" by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Home Secretary (Interior Minister) Leon Brittan warned: "We must not assume that this is the end of it... those who have done this have an absolutely unlimited capacity for evil."

He said in a television interview: "There is no reason to believe they regard their campaign as over and that is why the utmost vigilance is required."

Mr. Brittan promised every effort would be made to catch the bombers. Radio reports said ports and airports were being watched and checks were being made on suspected IRA sympathisers.

Hundreds of shoppers were milling around the area and a Salvation Army band was playing carols when the bomb exploded.

Reuters correspondent Michael Batty, who saw the blast, said: "A hailstorm of shattered glass rained down on the packed streets. Panic was instantaneous."

Flames leapt from the wrecked car and a huge pall of smoke billowed into the sky. Dead and injured lay in the road while one person shouted out: "Bloody IRA bastards."

Harrods was devastated. The ground floor to the fourth floor was a mass of mangled waste. Survivors spoke of walls caving in and a rush to the exits.

Police had 30 minutes notice of an attack after a caller with an Irish accent telephoned the Samaritans charity and said bombs had

been planted in and outside Harrods and in another busy shopping district, Oxford Street.

Officers with sniffer dogs were approaching the car when it exploded, possibly detonated by remote control. Children were among those caught in the rain of metal and glass.

Two police officers, one a woman, and three civilians were killed. Seventeen of the 77 people hurt had serious injuries caused by flying glass and shrapnel.

One victim, Michael Prendergast, emerged from hospital with his head swathed in bandages. He was hurled through a plate glass window by the blast and part of an ear was sliced off.

Police had warned of a possible pre-Christmas bombing blitz by the IRA after a bomb was found in a bag by a sharp-eyed passer-by outside a central London res-

taurant on Tuesday. Several people were injured a week ago when a bomb went off outside army barracks in outer London.

Hours after the explosion police were still checking reports of other suspected bombs, causing traffic chaos when streets were sealed off and buildings evacuated. Train services were halted in one region when a bomb was said to be lodged at Victoria station but nothing was found.

London's police commissioner, Sir Kenneth Newman, said there was definitely an active IRA cell in London and he had no doubt the attack at Harrods was the work of the IRA.

He disclosed that the caller to the Samaritans had used a hitherto unknown password identifying himself as a member of the outlawed guerrilla group which is fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

Saturday's blast was the first major bombing in the British capital since the IRA killed 11 soldiers with a double blast in London parks in July 1982. The worst bombing attack in mainland Britain was in 1974 when several devices exploded in Birmingham city pubs and killed 21 people.

Irish Prime Minister Garret Fitzgerald, speaking on television, said it might be time to review a decision not to proscribe Sinn Féin, the IRA's political wing.

Sinn Féin posed as a political party and put up candidates for elections at the same time as murdering people, he said.

Irish prime minister Cardinal Thomas O'Fiaich said the bombing was a monstrous crime against God and humanity. It was blasphemy to inflict such an appalling toll of death and injury on the innocent when they were preparing to celebrate the coming of the prince of peace, he said.

4 killed in London siege

LONDON (R) — Police found four bodies in a south London house early Sunday after an 11-hour siege by a gunman who shot his father, two brothers and a friend before killing himself. One of the brothers survived with serious injuries.

Armed police had surrounded the house since late Saturday afternoon, fearing all inside were dead because they saw no movement for several hours.

Soviet power struggle starts in Moldavia

MOSCOW (R) — The Kremlin has published a withering report on the work of the Communist Party leadership in Soviet Moldavia but the real target appeared to be supporters of the late President Leonid Brezhnev.

A statement printed in the party daily Pravda said the tiny republic, which borders Romania, was badly run both politically and economically and warned that Moscow would be watching for sharp and fast improvements.

Accusing the Moldavian leaders of doing nothing to alleviate food and consumer goods shortages and ignoring the complaints of the public, the statement indicated Kremlin concern about the mood of the population there.

But Western diplomats said its real significance appeared to lie more in the internal political power play between supporters of President Yuri Andropov and the old guard of party officials appointed by Mr. Brezhnev.

Mr. Brezhnev was party leader in Moldavia for two years from 1950 and always retained close links with the republic. Its leadership is made up of officials hand-picked by the late Soviet party chief.

Blunt attacks on the leaders of one of the Soviet republics have been extremely rare in the past.

Diplomats said party members would invariably connect Moldavia with Mr. Brezhnev and see the recent onslaught as directed at his appointees in senior party and government posts all over the country.



Spanish policemen carry the body of a man who died Saturday in a downtown discotheque fire. Altogether, 82 people have died in the blaze, which police and public authorities have blamed on the owners' negligence (A.P. wirephoto)

Madrid disco fire toll reaches 82

MADRID (R) — A judge Sunday began questioning four of the owners of the Madrid disco swept by fire early Saturday as the death toll in the blaze rose to 82.

A fifth partner in the ownership group was also being sought for interrogation over why several exit doors from the crowded basement were apparently found blocked when the fire broke out.

Court officials said Sunday all 81 bodies had been recovered from the gutted building so far and hospital sources reported one of the approximately 30 injured had died during the night.

The Madrid court probing the disaster has until Tuesday night to decide whether to order the five owners of the fashionable Alcala 20 disco to be remanded in custody.

Police said the blaze apparently started at about five a.m., shortly before closing time, when plastic curtains on a dancing stage caught fire.

Hundreds of panic-stricken youngsters stampeded up narrow staircases as the lights went out but they found some exits barred by locked doors and metal grilles.

Most of the victims suffocated in a heavy cloud of smoke which

had gathered near ground floor exits after being funnelled up through staircases and a lift shaft.

Firemen said they found bodies piled up against exits and near the cloakroom. The elaborate design of the converted music hall, with its numerous alcoves, had added to the confusion.

"The rescue services worked all night. What isn't right is that these sort of places exist at all," Antonio Figueruelo, Spain's emergency services chief, told reporters.

Witnesses said two doors at the rear of the building and a grille across one of the main entrances were shut when the fire broke out, apparently to stop last-minute gate-crashers.

One person was impaled on the grille when it buckled under the weight of bodies pressing to get out.

Police said the youngsters, many of whom had been drinking and dancing throughout the night, were apparently slow to react when smoke was spotted coming from behind the stage curtains.

Some even thought it was part of the disco show and applauded, survivors said.

Others spoke of seeing a flash of

light on the stage before the fire took hold. The blazing synthetic curtains fell onto groups of dancing couples who still crowded the stage.

Police said the fire may have been started by a short circuit, a cigarette end, or an exploding spotlight.

Screaming teenagers pushed, shoved and beat their way to the upper floors in a blind rush for safety, survivors said.

Witnesses said waiters had tried to put out the fire with extinguishers but some were half-empty or not working properly.

Madrid's civil governor Jose Rodriguez Colorado told a press conference the discotheque had only recently passed an official safety inspection.

City mayor Enrique Tierno Galvan, who was one of the first officials to visit the scene, told reporters there would be a full investigation.

"I just want this year to end, because we've had enough tragedies," Mr. Tierno Galvan told reporters.

The mayor declared a day of mourning Monday for the victims of the disco fire.

At least 24 Italians die in accident

GENOA, Italy (R) — At least 24 sailors were killed Sunday when a coach taking them to a football fixture plunged 70 metres from a motorway viaduct on to fields below, police said.

Altogether 39 young naval ratings, most of them conscripts, were travelling from their base at La Spezia to Turin for a football match.

In heavy rain and wind the bus struck the central reservation on the Genoa-Sestri Levante motorway which runs through rugged mountainous terrain, police said.

It then careened across the opposite carriageway and burst through the outside barrier to crash into the valley below.

Rescue workers, aided by firemen and police, recovered 24 bodies and three injured survivors.

One survivor was found wandering in the fields in a dazed condition but with only superficial injuries.

"I saw this boy come towards me, he was in a state of shock and covered with blood and dirt," he was holding his head in his hand and kept on asking me where his spectacles were," a local farmer said.

Personal belongings of the sailors were scattered widely among the vegetables.

Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini cancelled an engagement in Como and made for the scene of the accident.

Deng marks Mao's b'day

PEKING (R) — Chinese elder statesman Deng Xiaoping has marked the 90th anniversary of Mao Tse-tung's birth by writing two placards outside the late Communist Party chairman's boyhood home, the People's Daily reported Sunday.

The signs marked entrances to Mao's old home and memorial museum. In ancient China, emperors and famous scholars often were asked to contribute the calligraphy for inscriptions at important places and the custom survives.

The official newspaper also said Mao's home, in the village of Shaoshan in central China, had been refurbished with new exhibits including 52 letters, manuscripts and printed copies of the late chairman's works.

China is preparing to celebrate the anniversary on Dec. 26 with great fanfare. Mao died in 1976 aged 82.

A documentary film with clips never seen publicly before will be released. The late leader's son Mao Anqing has written an article about his father for a monthly magazine.

The press is full of articles praising Mao although the last 20 years of his life, especially the 1966-76 cultural revolution, are officially regarded as a disaster.

From the look of things, it would seem that Deng and his moderate associates have decided to stress Mao's positive contributions because they fear emphasising his mistakes could undermine the foundations of Chinese communism.

But while paying homage to Mao's legacy, the leadership has dropped most of his policies in practice.

For instance, China has been opened to foreign investment and improving living standards is emphasised — heresies to Mao, who believed these would inevitably reduce revolutionary ardour.

Belgians move to halt Waterloo heirs' pension

BRUSSELS (R) — A maverick Belgian senator will Monday try to stop the payment of an annual pension by the Belgian government to the heirs of Britain's Duke of Wellington, victor of the Battle of Waterloo.

Sen. Jean Humblet told Reuters it was "an historical anomaly" that the family should still receive 100,000 francs (\$2,000) a year from the Belgian state, and he has tabled a budget amendment to halt the payments.

King William of the Netherlands gave the original "Iron Duke" the title of the serene highness. Prince of Waterloo, a few months after the historic 1815 battle which sealed the downfall of emperor Napoleon of France.

With it went the freehold over 1,083 hectares (about 2,500 acres) on the site of the battlefield. Two years later, the duke sold a large amount of timber felled on the land and deposited the proceeds with the Dutch treasury.

When the kingdom of Belgium was created in 1831, the Belgian treasury took over paying interest on that deposit. It still pays it.

Soviet law schools 'open to bribery'

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet law schools are open to bribery and nepotism in the competition for places, and are in need of dire reforms in their selection system, a leading national newspaper said Sunday.

The law faculties of several provincial universities in particular were riddled with corruption, with students admitted to law courses and passing examinations often on account of influence or money, the young communist daily Kommunisticheskaya Pravda said.

A suggested measure to clean up the system was that prospective students should be selected only from people who have already done two years' work, normally in an administrative section of the interior ministry.

In a letter of response to the newspaper's charges the rector of one university said a number of people had been dismissed as a result of revelations of corruption in the system and reform measures were under way.

Disillusionment grows on both sides of Gibraltar

By Susan Roberts

MADRID (R) — One year after Spain reopened its border with the tiny British colony of Gibraltar, both sides are looking back with disappointment.

The Spanish have failed to make any significant progress in long-standing attempts to recover their former territory, and Gibraltarians, faced with a flagging economy, feel they have lost out commercially.

The reopening was heralded as the start of a new era in the vexed history of the huge sandstone rock, captured by the British in 1704, which guards the entrance to the western Mediterranean and towers over the Andalusian plain.

The gates had been shut since 1969, when dictator Gen. Francisco Franco closed them to press Spanish claims.

The decision to reopen the frontier to pedestrian traffic on Dec. 15 last year on humanitarian grounds was one of the first taken by Spain's socialist government, which had come to power a few days earlier.

Spain said the move was proof of its flexibility and goodwill, but a year later the move seems to have done little to advance negotiations over the rock's future.

The cultural and social benefits for Gibraltar's 30,000 inhabitants were tangible after 13 years of cramped existence on the 5.8 square kilometre rock.

The blockade had meant that the only way off the rock was by sea or air to Morocco or by plane to Britain.

Even telephone links with Spain were difficult. Separated families frequently shouted messages to each other through the metal gates spanning the sandy isthmus which links the rock with the Spanish mainland.

Now, housewives from the rock walk to the drab Spanish frontier town of La Linea every day to buy fresh fruit and vegetables, which are imported and expensive in Gibraltar.

The municipal car park in La Linea is crowded with more than a thousand cars with Gibraltar number plates. Taken into Spain by ferry via Tangier, the cars are

used for weekend outings by Gibraltarians once again free to cross the border on foot.

Spanish shoes and ornamental plants are much in demand.

Young Gibraltarians couples who find the cost of apartments on the rock beyond their reach have moved to La Linea and cross back to Gibraltar every day to work.

The trade balance is clearly in Spain's favour.

On national holidays, the rock is crowded with Spanish sightseers curious to see British policemen, newspapers, pubs and chain stores. But Spanish custom controls ensure they take nothing back to Spain with them, and the day-trippers spend little more than a few pounds on beers.

The president of Gibraltar's chamber of commerce, Wilfred Garcia, estimates that trade has fallen 50 per cent in the past year. The trade in fruit and vegetables has suffered especially.

Like other Gibraltarians and even some Spanish socialists, he feels that the opening was merely a clever political gesture and is bitter that the socialist government

has gone no further.

Britain's recent announcement that it would close the military dockyards in Gibraltar and make about 700 people redundant has increased the bitterness.

Unemployment, unknown a few years ago, is rising steadily.

The socialist mayor of La Linea, Juan Carmona, presented his resignation, disillusioned that no more had been done.

Rafael Palamino, a close aide of Carmona and a member of the semi-autonomous Andalusian government, commented: "In as far as winning the Gibraltarians over to us, we have achieved nothing."

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher caused uproar in Madrid in July when she said Spain would not be able to join the European Community until its restrictions on the Gibraltar border were lifted.

Spanish diplomats retorted angrily that Spain had always regarded Gibraltar as a bilateral issue and distinct from its planned accession to the community.

COLUMN

Most of Japan's women candidates are communists

TOKYO (R) — Women eager to dent the male domination of Japanese politics stand the best chance of getting into parliament by joining the Communist Party.

Only 28 of the 848 candidates in Sunday's "general" election are women, but 22 of them are standing for the communists. By contrast, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party has only one woman among its 339 candidates and the main opposition Socialist Party two women among 144 candidates. The other three women are standing as independents.

There were nine women in the outgoing 211-seat lower house — seven communists and two socialists.

One survivor was found wandering in the fields in a dazed condition but with only superficial injuries.

Human skeleton found in shark

JAKARTA (R) — A human skeleton was found inside a three metre shark netted by fishermen at Labuan Lombok in eastern Indonesia, newspapers said. The fishermen were slicing up the shark on board their boat when they discovered the skeleton.

Runaway car hurts 51 New Yorkers

NEW YORK (R) — A car injured 51 people when it careened out of control into a Christmas shopping area on the sidewalk of New York's fashionable Fifth Avenue, Saturday, police said. The injured were taken to hospitals where most of them were treated and released, police said. No one was believed to be seriously hurt. Police said the incident began when a man sitting in the passenger side of an illegally parked car was told to move it. He took the wheel and roared into a crowded intersection, slamming into pedestrians. The car struck another vehicle and veered on to the sidewalk where it smashed through throngs of shoppers before coming to a halt in front of a jeweller's.

Soviet woman finds gold brick

MOSCOW (R) — A woman worker demolishing a house in Leningrad discovered that one of the bricks in a bedroom fireplace was solid gold. A Soviet newspaper reported. The woman was suspicious because the brick was much heavier than the others and when she rubbed it a Tass crest emerged, the trade union daily Trud said. It turned out to be a 3.47 kilo gold bar produced in 1917 and apparently concealed for safekeeping. Under Soviet law finders of treasure are rewarded with 25 per cent of its value.

Chinese youth cycles to Tibet

PEKING (R) — "Super computer" Wang Qingchun has cycled all the way from Peking to Tibet — 10,000 kilometres — to report to work. The New China News Agency said. The 27-year-old Chinese university graduate pedalled over 5,000 metre high mountains in an 82-day trip through some of the most rugged territory in the world, it said. He arrived in Lhasa, the Tibetan capital, earlier this month. Wang, an economics graduate, volunteered to work in Tibet, where he was assigned to the regional education department. It said: "The bicycle trip fulfilled my hope of doing some investigation in the present situation along the road." The agency quoted Wang as saying:

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'Diary fraud' filled Nazi coffers

LONDON (R) — The Sunday Times newspaper, one of the publications "foiled by fake Hitler diaries" earlier this year, said the proceeds of the fraud would be found, if anywhere, in the coffers of a fund set up by former Nazis. The probe into the fraud had been led by a former SS hoodlum of Adolf Hitler, Meidner Kipper, who had reported to the West German magazine Stern. Gerd Heidenmann, to believe that between the two of them they had

leader Martin Bormann, the newspaper said. Heidenmann reported Kipper's "Shirazi" collection of Nazi diaries would be used to expose Bormann to the world, the newspaper added.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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DON'T LET THEM RUFF YOU OUT OF IT

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A Q 3
 ♥ K 5
 ♦ A K Q 3
 ♣ A 6 4 2

WEST **EAST**
 ♠ 5 4 ♠ 7 6 2
 ♥ Q 10 9 ♥ A J 7 4 3
 ♦ C 9 7 6 ♦ 10 5
 ♣ Q J 9 3 ♣ K 10 8

SOUTH
 ♠ K J 10 9 8
 ♥ 8 6 2
 ♦ 8 4 2
 ♣ 7 5

The bidding:
 North East South West
 2NT Pass 3♦ Pass
 4♦ Pass Pass Pass
 Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

Declarer had only three losers going in. To the delight of the defenders, he found no problem increasing that number by one.

After North's two no trump opening bid, South showed his five-card major. With three good trumps and a ruffing value, North had no hesitation in choosing the major-suit game. Had he been aware of his partner's ability, he might have chosen

three no trump — cold as the cards lie if North declares.

West led the queen of clubs. Declarer won in dummy, came to hand with a trump and led a heart to the king and ace. East returned a trump and, when he won the next heart, returned another trump. Since diamonds did not break, declarer ended up losing three heart tricks and a club. Most unfortunate.

In an attempt to make an overtrick rather than be satisfied with his contract, declarer had underplayed the hand. Before he played to the first trick, he had only two heart losers and a club. There was no need for him to be charitable.

Declarer should have won the club ace and immediately led a heart from the board. Now he is a tempo ahead. A defender can win and lead a trump. Declarer wins and clears dummy's last heart. The defenders can lead a second trump, but one trump still remains in dummy. Declarer wins the second trump in hand, ruffs a heart in dummy and leads a club. He can get back to his hand with a club ruff to draw the last of the enemy's trumps and claim his contract.

MOSCOW (R) — The Kremlin has published a withering report on the work of the Communist Party leadership in Soviet Moldavia but the real target appeared to be supporters of the late President Leonid Brezhnev.

A statement printed in the party daily Pravda said the tiny republic, which borders Romania, was badly run both politically and economically and warned that Moscow would be watching for sharp and fast improvements.

Accusing the Moldavian leaders of doing nothing to alleviate food and consumer goods shortages and ignoring the complaints of the public, the statement indicated Kremlin concern about the mood of the population there.

But Western diplomats said its real significance appeared to lie more in the internal political power play between supporters of President Yuri Andropov and the old guard of party officials appointed by Mr. Brezhnev.

Mr. Brezhnev was party leader in Moldavia for two years from 1950 and always retained close links with the republic. Its leadership is made up of officials hand-picked by the late Soviet party chief.

Blunt attacks on the leaders of one of the Soviet republics have been extremely rare in the past.

Diplomats said party members would invariably connect Moldavia with Mr. Brezhnev and see the recent onslaught as directed at his appointees in senior party and government posts all over the country.

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